



# Michigan Department of Transportation

## Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program

### Program Background

- The SR2S program was enacted with passage of the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in August of 2005.
- The statute authorizes \$612 million nationwide for a 5 year period ending September, 2009.
- Funding is distributed to each state in proportion to the state's share of the national student enrollment in grades K-8; schools serving this population are eligible for SR2S projects.
- Michigan's allocation totals \$19 million, divided among 5 annual apportionments.
- The SR2S program is administered by the Office of Transportation Economic Development and Enhancement (TEDE) of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

### Program Purposes

SAFETEA-LU specifies the following purposes for the program:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bike to school
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age
- To facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools

### Eligible Activities

SR2S funds can support both infrastructure and noninfrastructure projects. The statute identifies project types for each category as follows:

#### *Infrastructure Projects*

Sidewalks	On-street and off-street bicycle facilities
Traffic calming and speed reduction	Off-street pedestrian facilities
Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements	Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools

#### *Noninfrastructure Projects*

Activities to encourage walking and bicycling to school	Traffic enforcement operations in the vicinity of schools
Public awareness campaigns, community outreach	Student training sessions (bicycle and pedestrian safety, health, and environment)
Traffic education	Funding for training volunteers and managers of safe routes to schools programs

### Program Requirements

- Eligible recipients include state, local and regional agencies including nonprofit organizations.
- SR2S funding is 100 percent federal; no match is required.
- Infrastructure projects must be within a two mile radius of the school.
- In Michigan, a school-based planning process must be completed as a prerequisite for funding.

### How to Apply

Visit Michigan's SR2S website [www.saferoutesmichigan.org](http://www.saferoutesmichigan.org) for information on the required planning process, and for the status of application guidance—to be published summer of 2006—or contact Michael D. Eberlein, Michigan's SR2S Program Coordinator, at 517.335.3040.